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THE OBSERVATOR.

Remarks on Her Majesties most Gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament.

From **Thursday** October the 26th, to **Saturday** October the 28th, 1704.

Country-m. MAster *Observator*, as far as I have hitherto observ'd your Temper, you had rather your own Affairs should be neglected than that of the *Publick*; and therefore I would desire you to consider Her Majesties most Excellent Speech to both Houses of Parliament, before you proceed to your own *Vindication*.

Obs. With all my Heart; but prithee what hast Remark'd on Her Majesties Speech?

Country-m. It is an Excellent Speech, and would we conform our Tempers to that of our *Soveraign*, we should be the most happy People under the Copes of Heaven.

Obs. I have found that by Her Majesties former Speeches; and the *Baseness* and *Ingratitude* of some People in not complying with Her Majesties Desires, is Notorious: But prithee let me hear what this Speech contains.

Country-m. Her Majesty sits on the Throne like a *Dove* with the *Olive Branch* of *Peace*; *Peace at Home and War Abroad*, is the *Motto:* We should indeed be a happy People could the Worthy and Turbulent Members of this *Body Politick* be moulded into a Temper and Disposition suitable to that of its *Soveraign Head*; but if neither the Wise Dictates from the Throne, nor the concurring Consent of the Major part of the People can work some Men into a Temper Conformable to that of Her Majesties, we that are true Friends to the present Government ought to *Unite* in Defence of the *Queen* and *Realm*.

Obs. Prithee Read the Speech, that part of it you hint at.

Country-m. My Lords and Gentlemen,

I cannot but tell you how Essential it is for attaining the Great Ends Abroad, of which we have so hopeful a Prospect, that we should be **United** *at Home.*

It is plain our Enemies have no Encouragement left but what arrives from their **Hopes** *of* our **Divisions**; *'tis therefore your Concern not to give the least Countenance to those* **Hopes.**

My Inclinations are to be Kind and Indulgent to you ALL. *I hope you will do nothing to endanger the Loss of this Opportunity which God hath put into our Hands, of securing our selves and all* Europe, *and that there will be no Contention among you, but who shall most promote the Publick Welfare.*

Such a Temper as this; in all your Proceedings, cannot fail of securing Reputation both at Home and Abroad.

This would make me a happy Queen, whose utmost Endeavours shall never be wanting to make you a Happy and Flourishing People.

Now, Master *Observator*, is not this an excellent Speech? Let me hear your Opinion of it.

Obs. I have often given you my Opinion of Her Majesties most excellent Speeches, and should do the same now, did I not fear some People would make it *Seditious*; for you see they can do any thing with me. I wish they don't at last make me an Old Woman, and Indict me for a Witch.

Country-m. Never fear, Master, if you are Indicted for Extolling Her Majesty, your Jury will consider that Point; and you have often told us, particularly in your last, who is your *Prosecutor*.

Obs. It is a great Truth, what Her Majesty says, *That our Enemies have no Encouragement left but what arises from their Hopes of our Divisions.* Our Land Army has not only given us Proof of their Conduct and Courage, but have done it so effectually, that we have a clear View of Success by Land, and I hope, in time, our Sea Affairs will have the same Prospect.

But if we have *Bontefeu*'s and Incendiaries at Home, who, by Partial Proceedings, shall stir up *Discord* and *Strife*, who shall encourage the Enemies of *England*, and Discourage its Friends; then our Enemies may indeed have *Hopes* from our *Division*; and by *Intestine Discord* we may retard our Successes, *Fis Unita Fortior*; and I think all Hands and Hearts ought to be United in the Common Cause, and those who endeavour to Obstruct such a Union, can never be Friends to the Queen and Realm.

'Tis much the Object of our Wonder, how these Discords and Factions are fomented and carried on, when they have not in the least been Countenanced from the Throne. This is not the first Speech Her Majesty has made recommending *Peace* and *Union* to Her Subjects, and the Noncompliance of some Men, with this Divine Profitable Temper, speaks not *Ingratitude* only, but something of a more heinous Nature, and far more dangerous Consequence.

One would think, that when Men have got what they have Talk'd and Party'd for in another Reign, I mean *Offices* and *Preferments*; that they might be content with their Grandeur, without Insulting of such, whose Honest Endeavours are to serve the Publick without any Hopes of Reward; and not be Angry with those who have neither Leisure or Reason to admire the Feathers in their Caps, or to extol their Preferment.

To have the Nation hurried into *Contention* about the Conduct of one Man that is grown great in Office, when perhaps one hundred part of the Nation knows nothing of the Business; it may be just as much as the Townsmen of *Calnes* know of the Advantage of taking *Gibralter*: I say when a Nation is engaged in such little trifling Contentions, it may give Room for our Enemies to believe that they may Engage us yet in greater Divisions, when indeed, as Her Majesty

fly most Excellently says, *There ought to be no Contention among us, but who shall most promote the Publick Welfare.*

Honest *Country-man*, my Circumstances are such, my Enemies have such Power, that I know not what to Say or Write; but certainly I have now the Royal Authority for what I say, *Peace* and *Union* have been the Subject of my Pen, Have I not Preach'd up this Doctrine to Mankind? Have I not made it my Business to shew the Necessity of *Peace* and *Union*, in order to the Security of the best of Queens, and the most Noble Constitution of Government in the *Universe*? Have I not, in all my Writings, exposed the Men of *Strife*, the Sons of *Discord* and *Contention*, who, like the great *Leviathan* are best pleased on Turgid, Noise and Swelling Waves? And have I not had the Royal Authority for what I have done? Have not all Her Majesties Speeches been the Rescue? Have they not directed my Penin the Peaceful Subjects of *Union* and *Concord*? Am I become the Nations Enemy, because I have told 'em the Truth? And am I a *Seditious Person*, a *Libeller*, a *Disturber* of the *Peace*, and an Enemy to the *Queen* and *Government*, because I have followed the Royal Dictates of *Peace* and *Union*.

My Appeal to *God* and my own *Conscience*, perhaps may not serve my Turn; 'tis better to Appeal to the Consciences of other Men than my own. And I can Appeal to those that know me and my Principles; Let them declare whether I am not by Principle an *Englishman*, according to the Foundation of the Ancient Constitution of this Kingdom, and tho' perhaps myself, and I am certain most of the Kingdom, do not inherit the Vertues of our Ancestors, yet I admire our Fathers Laws, the Noble Constitution of Government they form'd, and those Glorious Liberties they have left us, Signing the Charters of our Freedom with their own Blood, these Liberties being the only *Hereditary Rights of Englishmen*: I have Vindicated them against the Libels of *Nonjurors* and *Papists*, by which they have sapp'd the very *Glacis* of this Government, the Antient Constitution of this Realm, and the Liberties of *Englishmen*; there lies a whole Bundle of those Libels, and not one of 'em yet Prosecuted, as I know of.

How much different from Her Majesties Temper some Men are, who pretend to the highest Loyalty, is so evident, that I need not mention particulars. Certainly, if these Men would take a view of our present Circumstances, in Relation to the Welfare of *Europe*, they would cool themselves by due Consideration, and comply with Her Majesties Desires, if they have any true Zeal for Her Majesties Interest, or the Good of the Kingdom.

Country-m. Her Majesties Inclinations are to be Kind and Indulgent to ALL Her Subjects, Her Majesty makes no Difference; and why Her Majesties Subjects should do otherwise, I can see no Reason.

Obs. Nor I neither: I thought to have proceeded in my own Vindication, but I have been so large already on Her Majesties most Excellent Speech, that I must defer my own Vindication till another time; and therefore at present I bid you a Hearty Farewel.

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